



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Franklin County provides "Helping Hands for Heroes"

January 29, 2016 - CHAMBERSBURG, PA – Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office and the Franklin County Adult Probation Department are proud to announce the Helping Hands for Heroes Program. This program is a partnership between the two departments and provides eligible probation participants the opportunity to serve Franklin County military and veteran personnel and their families. Justin Slep, Veterans Affairs Director, and Dan Hoover, Chief of Adult Probation, introduced the program yesterday morning at the meeting of the Franklin County Commissioners.

"Justin and Dan deserve great credit for working together for the benefit of our veterans and their families," said Commissioner and Board Chairman Dave Keller.

"The Court supports the efforts of Adult Probation to partner with Veterans Affairs and provide meaningful community service opportunities that will benefit veterans, military personnel and their families," said Carol Van Horn, President Judge of the 39th Judicial District, which includes Franklin and Fulton Counties.

Military and Veteran personnel and their families can request individual assistance with a range of outdoor needs including but not limited to: lawn care, landscaping, painting, cleaning, and small projects. Assistance will be provided based on need and efforts will be made to avoid competing with anyone who provides these kinds of services for a fee.

The work by probation participants can count toward Community Service hours. Participants may also volunteer time for veteran community events and services.

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For additional information on Franklin County visit www.franklincountypa.gov.

Dependents of deployed/ TDY active duty military members, dependents of activated/deployed Guard or Reserve military members, qualifying Veterans or surviving spouse of Veteran may request services by contacting the Veterans Affairs Office (717) 263-4326. All necessary tools and supplies must be provided by the individual receiving services.

“I’m impressed that this new service will be managed by existing personnel and will not impact the budget,” said Commissioner Bob Thomas. The Veterans Affairs Director, the Chief of Adult Probation, and Probation’s Community Service Coordinator will administer the program.

Probation participants who are interested in completing community service hours through this program should contact their probation officer or Community Service Coordinator at the Adult Probation Department (717) 264-6613 to determine eligibility.

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